REMARKS

Claims 1 and 37-41 are amended, claims 2-36 and 42-53 are canceled, and new claims 54-57 are added herein.

Support for the amendment to claim 1 is found, e.g., at page 10, lines 4 through 24, and at page 25, line 20, through page 29, line 12, of the specification as filed (see, e.g., paragraphs [0017]-[0019] and [0070]- [0078] of the present application as published under Pub. No. US2002/0142984 A1).

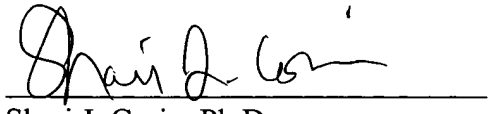
Claims 37-41 have been amended such that they now depend from claim 1 (the elected claim). Support for the amended claim dependencies is found throughout the application, e.g., at page 6, lines 3-21 of the specification as filed (see, e.g., paragraphs [0012]-[0013] of the published application).

Support for new claims 54-57 is found, e.g., at page 30, line 25, through page 31, line 27, and page 38, line 19, through page 39, line 26, of the specification as filed (see, e.g., paragraphs [0083]-[0086] and [0108]-[0109] of the published application).

It is believed that no new matter is added by these amendments.

Enclosed is a Request for a two-month extension of time, to extend the period for reply to May 18, 2004. Also enclosed is Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 in the amount of $210.00 for the two-month extension of time fee. No additional fees are believed to be due; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0629.

Respectfully submitted,

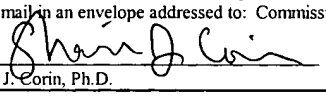


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this document, together with any items indicated as being attached or enclosed, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.



Shari J. Corin, Ph.D.

May 18, 2004
Date